a small additional staff for the Hospital. The staff in the Pharmacy is also proposed to be strengthened by the appointment of an Assistant Vaidyan on account of the growing demand for medicine due to larger increase in the number of out-patients which was 52,878 in 1107. Provision has also been made for the payment of stipends to two students, one in the Ayurveda College of the Hindu University, Benares, and the other in the Government School of Indian Medicine, Madras. An allotment of Rs 12,300 has also been provided under "Debt Head-Advances" for the opening of a sales branch of the Ayurveda Pharmacy.

22. *Public Health and Sanitation.*—The Public Health Department was first formed in 1104 and has all along been continued from year to year on a temporary basis. Government now consider that there should not only be a permanent Public Health Department for the State, but also that all public health activities, both urban and rural, curative and preventive, should be co-ordinated and brought under common control. Sound administration would require that there should be one administrative head for all the public health activities of the State. The chief Medical Officer of the State aided by proper assistants should, on the one hand, direct the hospital and curative work and, on the other, control the sanitation and public health activities. No doubt, the hospital and curative work will be developed by the medical officers, but it is essential that these activities should be closely correlated to the public health work. Further, the activities of the Sanitary Department of the State are so intimately related to those of the Public Health Department that, for efficiency of administration, the activities of the two departments should be co-ordinated and brought under common control. For the better working of the two departments and in the better interests of public health it is proposed to amalgamate the Sanitary and the Public Health Departments under the control of the Darbar Physician. The re-classification of these budget heads necessitated by the proposed amalgamation has also been given effect to in the draft budget.

23. *Public Health.*—The public health programme for the next year provides for the continuance of all the existing activities of the department, the allotment provided being Rs 1·15 lakhs against the revised estimate of Rs ·68 of a lakh for the current year.

(i) *Public Health Education and Propaganda.*—The Health Educational Officer is continuing his work of popularising the various activities of the Public Health Department by public lectures, cinema shows, and publication of pamphlets. For the next year, it is proposed that he should also work out a Public Health Educational Scheme for the Neyyattinkara Health Unit and, if found useful, extend the programme to the whole State.

(ii) *Hookworm Treatment Campaign.*—A Hookworm survey was conducted by the Public Health Department in all the taluks of the State during the year 1930. The survey disclosed that the rate o

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[Mr. R. Nilakanta Pillai.]

infection among the population was so high as 93 per cent. The high rate of infection, as disclosed by this survey, necessitated the adoption of control measures and accordingly a hookworm treatment campaign was inaugurated throughout the State. The existence of hookworm is a real menace to the physical well-being of the people. All possible means have therefore to be devised for controlling the disease. As the course of treatment adopted was found to be successful in reducing the rate of infection, it is proposed to continue the campaign next year also on a more organised basis. To facilitate the easy and scientific combating of the Hookworm disease, a Public Health Laboratory will be organised, where, among other things, the faecal specimens mailed from the field by the Hookworm survey and treatment parties will be subjected to close examination and study. The laboratory will furnish a method of precision in diagnosis and help the confirmation or denial of tentative clinical opinions. The proposed laboratory will be placed under a Medical Officer of Health who will also guide and control all the laboratory work relating to Public Health including the work of Bacteriologist, Chemical and Food Analysts and of the Vaccine Institute. Provision has been made in the P. W. D. budget for the construction of a suitable building to accommodate all these activities.

(iii) *Epidemiology and Vital Statistics.*—The Public Health conditions of the State cannot be properly assessed in the absence of an efficient system of collection and registration of vital statistics. As the collection of these statistics is not quite satisfactory in Travancore, experimental work was started in the Vilavankod taluk with a view to investigate the possibility of devising measures for the collection of accurate statistics for the whole State. The experiment has been justified by the results so far obtained and it is proposed to continue the work next year with Trivandrum as the base. Epidemiology and vital statistics will continue under its present direction from the new base and the officer in charge of the work will also be available to take charge of the work of treatment of cholera and other epidemics when they break out.

(iv) *Health Unit.*—The present activities of the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara comprise the registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, improvement of sanitation, maternity and infant welfare, school medical work, campaign against special diseases and health education. Incidentally, the Health Unit system serves as a training centre for all field workers such as Health Officers, Public Health Nurses, Midwives, etc., and as an experimental station for working out field problems. During the next year it is proposed to enlarge the scope of the existing Health Unit work to a wider area and provision has therefore been made for an additional staff of Midwives and Public Health Nurses. Government have an idea to establish another Health Unit in North Travancore and in order that the new unit may have a trained staff from the very outset, provision has been made in the next year's budget for the training of a few selected officers.

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(v) *Filarial Survey and Medical Entomology.*—Filarial surveys of Shertallai, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha taluks, Quilon and Trivandrum Municipal towns and parts of the Alleppey Municipal town and the Karunagapally taluk have been conducted so far. The etiology of filariasis in Shertallai and Trivandrum has been worked out. Control measures at Trivandrum have been found to be effective. Malaria surveys of Todupuzha and Shencotta taluks and parts of Patanapuram, Vilavankod and Neyyattinkara taluks have also been completed. It is proposed to continue the work next year.

(vi) *Plague.*—The outbreak of plague in Peermade necessitated the commencement of a rat-flea survey. An officer was specially trained in Bombay for the work of combating plague and is now stationed at Peermade where he is taking routine measures against the outbreak of plague. Provision has been made for continuing and strengthening the existing temporary staff for the prevention and control of plague and other epidemics.

(vii) *General.*—A sum of Rs 6,000 has also been included in the budget for grants to Municipalities for taking measures for the control of mosquitoes and Rs 4,720 for the control of filariasis in the Shertallai taluk.

24. *Stationery and Printing*—A Special Officer with a temporary staff for the Standardisation of Forms now in use was appointed early this year. He has already inspected 21 departments and has standardised the forms in use effecting appreciable savings. There are yet 30 more departments to be inspected and this will take up the whole of 1109. Provision is therefore made for the continuance of the Officer and his staff for the next year.

The absence of a central agency in the Secretariat to exercise an effective control in respect of the issue of stationery for printing and binding of forms and registers required for the several Government departments from year to year has, it is seen, led to occasional overstocking of registers, to printing of oversized volumes and to waste of costly stationery for printing ephemeral forms. With a view to effect consolidation and coherence in printing and to effect all possible economies under printing and stationery, it is proposed to organise a Central Printing Office in the Secretariat with effect from 1st Chingam 1109, by amalgamating the existing Forms Branch of the Stationery department, with the office of the Special Officer for the Standardisation of Forms.

The Central Printing Office will work under the control of the Special Officer during the period of Standardisation, and function as a separate unit in the Secretariat, when the work of the Special Officer is over.

25. *Co-operative Department.*—A mixed committee of officials and non-officials was appointed towards the middle of the current year, with Mr. G. K. Devadhar as Chairman, to examine the present condition of the co-operative movement in the State and to make recommendations

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